

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ZAGREB 00713 280306Z

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ZAGREB 0713

EXDIS

FROM AMBASSADOR SILBERMAN

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, PORG, YO, US

SUBJECT: TITO'S MEETING WITH CODEL ALBERT

CODEL ALBERT HAD FRIENDLY TWO HOUR MEETING WITH TITO AT BRIONI
AUGUST 25. FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ITEMS
NOT COVERED BY TITO WHEN HE MET WITH THE PRESIDENT AND SECRE-
TARY.

A. TITO GRATUITOUSLY MENTIONED THAT HE WOULD POSSIBLY
VISIT THE US DEPENDING ON CONDITIONS OF THE WORLD.

B. IN EXPRESSING HIS DESIRE TO EXPAND US-YUGOSLAV COOPERATION,
TITO SPECIFICALLY INCLUDED "POLITICAL" AS WELL AS ECONOMIC
COOPERATION.

C. AS IN HIS TALKS WITH THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY, TITO
SPENT MUCH TIME AND SAID MUCH THE SAME ON THE MIDDLE EAST
SITUATION. HE DID, HOWEVER, LAUD KISSINGER'S "TIRELESS AND
PATIENT MEDIATION" IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IN URGING ISRAEL TO
FOLLOW A REALISTIC AND PEACEFUL POLICY, HE COMMENTED THAT
SADAT IF NOT SUCCESSFUL WOULD BE OVETHROWN. "SADAT HAS SOME OTHER
INTERNAL PROBLEMS."

D. ASKED ABOUT THE BREZHNEV DOCTRINE, TITO SAID THAT DOCTRINE
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PAGE 02 ZAGREB 00713 280306Z

IS OF NO CONCERN TO YUGOSLAVIA BECAUSE "WE HAVE OUR OWN

DOCTRINE." ON THE OTHER HAND, WITHOUT BLAMING THE USG, HE COMPLAINED ABOUT PRESS REPORTS THAT YUGOSLAVIA IS SEEKING ANTI-TANK MISSILES TO BE USED AGAINST THE USSR WHICH HE DENIED. HE SAID YUGOSLAV-USSR RELATIONS ARE GOOD AND THAT HE SAW NO REASON TO HARM RELATIONS WITH THE USSR WHICH "IS GEOGRAPHICALLY CLOSER THAN THE US TO YUGOSLAVIA." (COMMENT: TITO WAS CLEARLY SIGNALLING US TO BE DISCREET AND NOT TO EMBARRASS HIM WITH REPORTS ABOUT US ARMS PURCHASES WHICH COULD CONSTITUTE A PROVOCATION TO THE USSR. THE BRADSHER ARTICLES PROBABLY UPSET HIM AND MIGHT HAVE DRAWN COMPLAINT FROM THE USSR.)

E. CONG. BURTON HIT HARD ON THE RAPID LOSS OF US SUPPORT FOR THE UN BECAUSE OF SUCH ISSUES AS UNESCO, ILO, AND PUERTO RICO AND THEN ADDED THAT WE HAD NOTED THE YUGOSLAV VOTE ON PUERTO RICO. TITO SAID HE WAS WELL AWARE OF THE DEVELOPMENTS TO WHICH BURTON HAD REFERRED AND THAT WAS WHY MINIC HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PRESS THE MODERATE LINE IN LIMA WITH RESPECT TO THE EXPULSION OF ISREAL FROM THE UN.

F. TITO MENTIONED THE FORTHCOMING SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA WHICH WILL REVIEW ECONOMIC SYSTEMS AND SAID PROBLEMS HAVE TO BE SOLVED PIECE BY PIECE. IT IS NECESSARY TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC APPROACHES

TO PROBLEMS AND NOT EMPHASIZE OVERALL CHANGE OF SYSTEMS. HE THEN ADDED, "WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL ABOUT OUR STATEMENTS AT THE UN AS WE MUST AVOID ANY MISUNDERSTANDING."

A DETAILED MEMCON WILL FOLLOW, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS.

COMMENT BY EMBASSY: AS TITO PROMISED, FOREIGN SECRETARY MINIC AT LIMA, WHILE RECITING USUAL YUGOSLAV POSITIONS ON VARIETY OF ISSUES, PROVIDED WAY AROUND PROPOSED EXPULSION OF ISRAEL FROM UNITED NATIONS BY VAGUELY CITING "BROAD POSSIBILITIES PROVIDED BY UN CHARTER FOR SANCTIONS." AS PROMISED BY YUGOSLAVS, MINIC DID NOT RAISE PUERTO RICO AND HIS SUPPORT FOR RETURN OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER CANAL TO PANAMA IS ESSENTIALLY OUR OWN POSITION.

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